

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 VIENTI 05837 260331Z

12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-11 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DRC-01 TRSE-00 AID-20 DODE-00

PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 L-03 /092 W

----- 126501

P R 251355Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 126

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMCONSUL UDORN

CDR USSAG NKP

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 5837

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR, AFSP, LA

SUBJ: TAPS GUARDS STRIKE

REF: VIENTIANE 5825

1. AS REPORTED REFTEL, MOOD OF STRIKERS DURING MORNING WAS MARKEDLY UGLIER THAN YESTERDAY. WE FEARED THAT THE MEETING SCHEDULED AT 1500 THIS AFTERNOON WITH THE STRIKERS' REPRESENTATIVES WOULD BE TURNED INTO A DEMONSTRATION. WE THEREFORE APPEALED TO JOINT POLICE FOR PROTECTION AND IN EARLY AFTERNOON TWO TRUCKLOADS OF PATHET LAO AND NATIONAL POLICE ARRIVED AT THE EMBASSY COMPOUND.

2. THE STRIKERS' REPRESENTATIVES, SOME FIFTEEN OF THEM, DULY ARRIVED AT 3, TOGETHER WITH THREE LAW STUDENTS WHO WERE BONAFIDE. THE COUNSELOR FOR ADMINISTRATION, ROGER PROVENCHER, LED THE EMBASSY NEGOTIATING TEAM. ALSO PRESENT WAS PRINCE PANYA SOUVANNA PHOUMA, THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF ROYAL AIR LAOS, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 VIENTI 05837 260331Z

AND MR. BERNARD, THE AMERICAN HEAD OF TAPS, MR THONGBEY DIRECTOR

OF PNGU MINISTRY OF SOCIAL WELFARE, THE POST RSO, THE USAID ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR MANAGEMENT AND AN OFFICER FROM USIS. ALL TOGETHER THERE WERE IN A SMALL CONFERENCE ROOM SOME 30 PEOPLE.

3. THE INITIAL DISCUSSION WAS PROLONGED AND CONFUSING. THE STRIKERS STARTED BY MAKING SPEECHES AND OUR REPRESENTATIVES SOUGHT TO DEFINE FOR THEM THE PURPOSES OF THE MEETING. FINALLY, THE DISCUSSION GOT DOWN TO CONCRETE OFFERS WE WERE PREPARED TO MAKE, BASED ON ROYAL AIR LAO SECURITY SERVICES CONDITIONS. CLEARLY THE STRIKERS WERE IMPRESSED AND THE NEGOTIATIONS BECAME REALISTIC AND AFTER FIVE AND ONE HALF HOURS WERE SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDED. (WE SHALL PROVIDE DETAILS TOMORROW.) THE MEETING ENDED WITH AN AGREEMENT TO MEET TOMORROW AT 1000 TO DRAFT AGREED MINUTES WHICH WOULD CONSTITUTE ACCORDS REACHED. THIS DOCUMENT WILL BE SIGNED BY THE EMBASSY, THE STRIKERS, STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES, PRINCE PANYA SOUVANNA PHOUMA, RICHARD BERNARD (TAPS) AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE PNGU LABOR OFFICE. ALSO WE HAVE OBTAINED THE RELEASE OF TWO AMERICAN AND TWENTY HOSTAGES WHO HAVE BEEN INCARCERATED AT TAPS HEADQUARTERS FOR SOME 29 HOURS. TWO FIRE ENGINES KIDNAPPED DURING THE STRIKE WILL ALSO BE IMMEDIATELY RELEASED.

4. OUR 250 MAINTENANCE CONTRACTUAL EMPLOYEES EXPECT SIMILAR CONCESSIONS BEFORE THEY WILL AGREE TO RETURN TO WORK. EMBASSY WILL BEGIN NEGOTIATING WITH MAINTENANCE CREW AS SOON AS THIS ONE CAN BE FULLY RESOLVED.

5. SINCE TRANS AIR PERSONNEL WILL NOT GO BACK ON FULL DUTY UNTIL 0700 LOCAL TIME TOMORROW, HOST GOVERNMENT POLICE WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE INTERIM PROTECTION TO SELECTED, KEY U.S. MISSION LOCATIONS UNTIL THAT TIME.
WHITEHOUSE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, LABOR STRIKES, NEGOTIATIONS, POLICE PROTECTION RIGHTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974VIENTI05837
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740203-0255
From: VIENTIANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740716/aaaaanoel.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: VIENTIANE 5825
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Aug-2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <24 FEB 2003 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TAPS GUARDS STRIKE
TAGS: PINR, AFSP, LA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005